



NCR Interoperability Program

14 December 2005

Ms. Angela E. Giancarlo
Associate Chief, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division, WTB
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Giancarlo,

In my role as the National Capitol Region Interoperability Program (NCR IP) Program Director, I am providing for your review; *National Capital Region Interoperability Program, Regional Public Safety Broadband Network User Specification*. It has been assembled as part of the requirements gathering phase of the NCR IP. This document reinforces and expands on the significant need for public safety broadband wireless applications.

On the eve of the release of the FCC's spectrum assessment for public safety, we hope you will have fully considered this and all the information previously provided in relevant submissions in support of your report. This includes:

- A detailed assessment on the public safety demand for wireless broadband applications. (incorporated in this filing)
- A detailed assessment on the quantity of spectrum needed based on anticipated usage and technological capabilities to include Federal, State, and local public safety¹.
- A detailed assessment on the applicability of commercial technologies to satisfy the public safety demand (provided as the initial filing to the FCC NFC²)
- A detailed assessment on the applicability of 4.9 GHz spectrum solutions to meet all broadband public safety needs (provided as my testimony to the House of Representatives in September of 2000)

We urge you to fully consider these documents in your assessment. The public safety effort in assembling these documents is testimony to the importance of the issue to public safety.

In summary, the only viable solution to the significant and growing public safety need is an additional **allocation of 700MHz spectrum, permanently reserved and allocated for shared use of local, regional and federal organizations**.

Without some provision for additional spectrum, there is a very real risk that information our first responders need while responding to an incident will not be available when they need it and, worse, many of the public safety organizations with responsibilities within our region – especially the Federal government – will be shut out of any solution for delivery of public safety data required to help protect the American Homeland.

Cordially,

¹ http://www.spectrumcoalition.dc.gov/img/PS_Whitepaper_10-25-05.pdf

²

<http://www.spectrumcoalition.dc.gov/img/Spectrum%20Coalition%20Comments%20FCC%2005-80%20final.pdf>

Robert LeGrande II
Deputy Chief Technology Officer, DC Government / NCR IP Program Director